

State of Alaska FY2007 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Health Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

Environmental Health Results Delivery Unit

Contribution to Department's Mission

Safe drinking water, food, and sanitary practices.

Core Services

- Establish clear standards.
- Apply standards consistently statewide.
- Permit, inspect and provide technical assistance.
- Enforce requirements.

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
A: The environment is protected from solid waste and pesticide pollution. <u>Target #1:</u> 100% of solid waste facilities are authorized/permitted. <u>Measure #1:</u> % of facilities that are authorized/permitted.	A1: Establish protective standards for Solid Waste and Pesticides. <u>Target #1:</u> Solid waste regulations are revised, adopted and implemented by the end of FY2007. <u>Measure #1:</u> % of solid waste regulations and standards complete.
End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
B: Citizens are protected from unsafe food and drinking water. <u>Target #1:</u> No outbreaks of food borne illness in regulated facilities. <u>Measure #1:</u> Number of regulated facilities with food borne outbreaks within the fiscal year. <u>Target #2:</u> No public illness outbreaks from regulated public water systems. <u>Measure #2:</u> Number of regulated facilities with public illness outbreaks within the fiscal year.	B1: Establish protective standards for food and drinking water. <u>Target #1:</u> Protective standards for food are complete by the end of FY2006. <u>Measure #1:</u> % of protective standards complete for food. B2: Control sanitary practices for food and drinking water. <u>Target #1:</u> 100% plan reviews are processed within specific turn around times. <u>Measure #1:</u> % reviews processed within specific turn around time. <u>Target #2:</u> 100% of food handlers and sanitary survey inspectors are certified. <u>Measure #2:</u> % of food handlers and sanitary survey inspectors are certified. B3: Enforce safe sanitary practices for food and drinking water. <u>Target #1:</u> Within a fiscal year, less than 10% of regulated facilities have been issued notice of violations or civil fines. <u>Measure #1:</u> % of regulated facilities issued notice of

violations or civil fines within the fiscal year.

Major Activities to Advance Strategies

- Test and monitor food products for safety.
- Assist food operators to be in compliance with the Alaska Food Code.
- Provide environmental health information by conducting laboratory tests and analysis.
- Develop and maintain foreign animal disease monitoring and surveillance.
- Regulate community water systems.
- Implement a risk-based inspection and compliance plan for landfills.
- Assure the safety of food and water supplies during a crisis or disaster.
- Conduct compliance investigations and inspections.
- Enforce environmental health regulatory requirements.
- Investigate complaints and outbreaks.

FY2007 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2007 Results Delivery Unit Budget: \$14,293,400

Personnel:

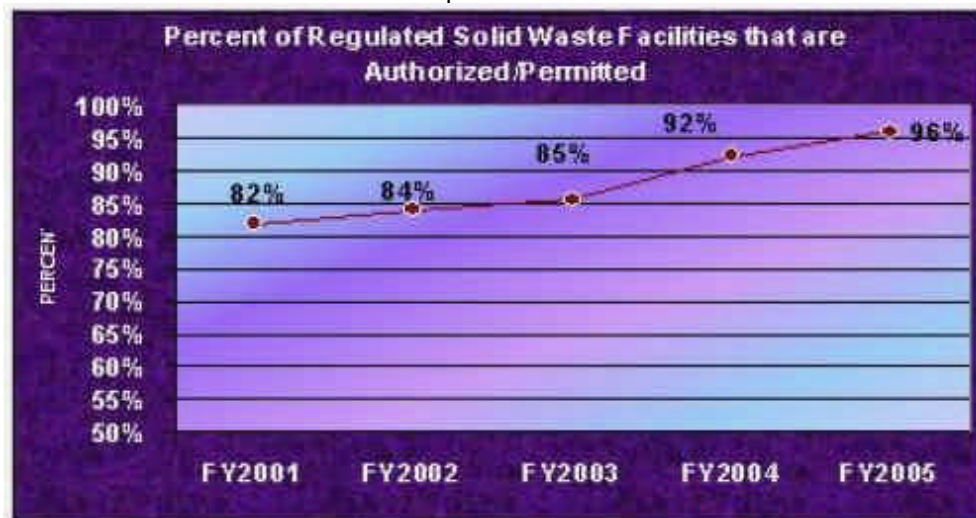
Full time 143

Part time 0

Total	143
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Performance Measure Detail

A: Result - The environment is protected from solid waste and pesticide pollution.

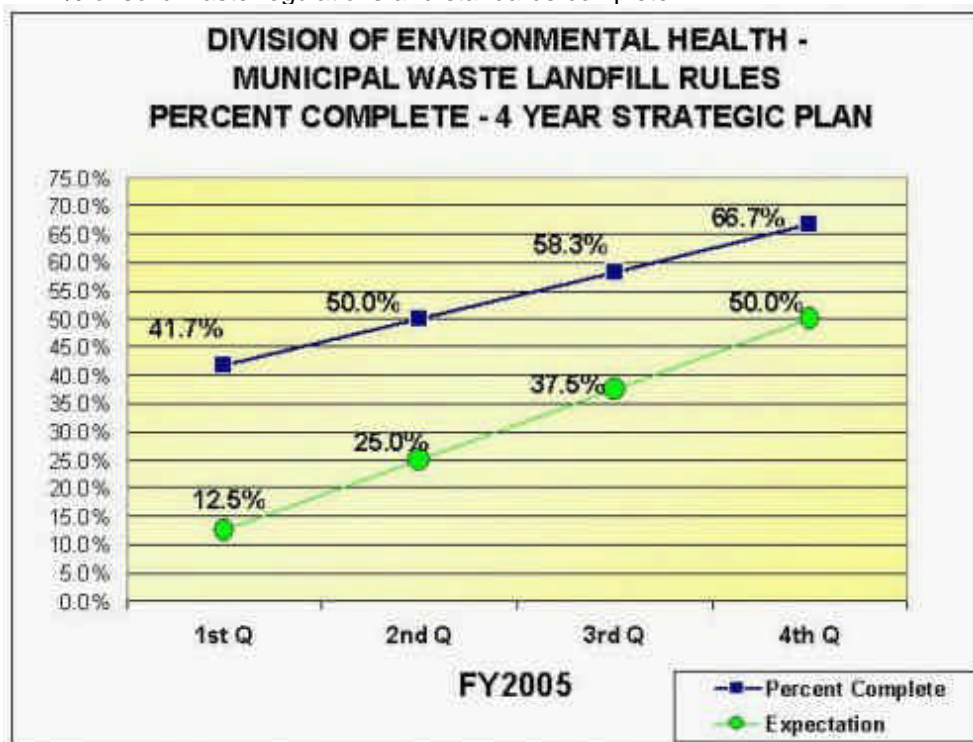
Target #1: 100% of solid waste facilities are authorized/permited.**Measure #1:** % of facilities that are authorized/permited.

Analysis of results and challenges: The Solid Waste Program oversees permitting municipal landfills receiving over 5 tons of waste per day (Class I and Class II landfills) and industrial activities that require permitting. The program tracks the number of Class I, Class II, and industrial permits and the number of facilities requiring permits. All of the facilities required to be permitted are either permitted or in the process of obtaining new permits or renewing the necessary permit.

A1: Strategy - Establish protective standards for Solid Waste and Pesticides.

Target #1: Solid waste regulations are revised, adopted and implemented by the end of FY2007.

Measure #1: % of solid waste regulations and standards complete.



Analysis of results and challenges: The Solid Waste Program effectively manages waste disposal for larger communities through Class I and Class II permits. In the current permitting system, small communities producing less than 5 tons of municipal solid waste per day are required to have a Class III permit. Only 25% of the Class III communities have permitted landfills. The department is changing the structure of the solid waste program to improve permitting rates for Class III communities. This required statutory authority to allow DEC to give permits via prior authorization by developing a process and procedures for governing prior authorization of Class III landfills and revising the solid waste regulations. Statutory changes (passed in 2004) gave DEC the authority to prior authorize a disposal action rather than require site-specific or action specific permits.

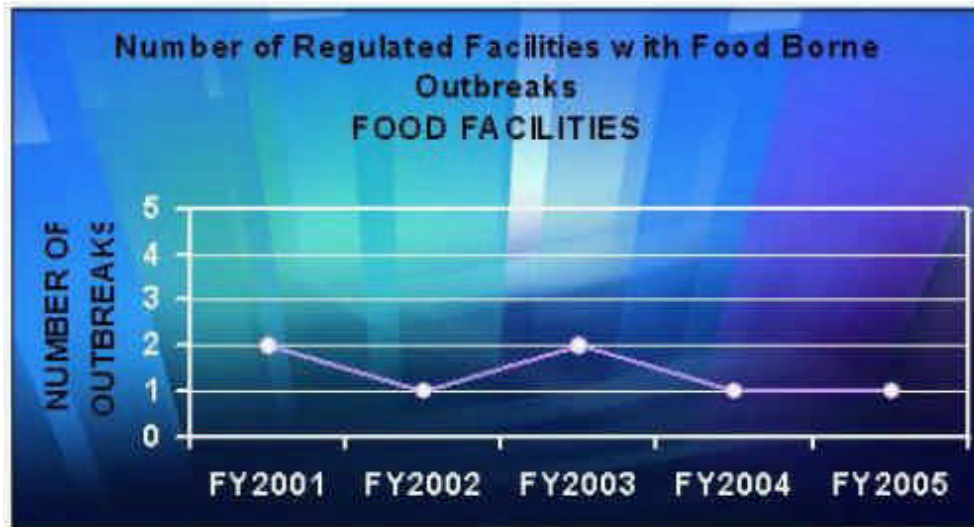
A risk calculator that utilizes location-specific data is being developed for Class III landfills that will allow a community to evaluate if they qualify for prior authorization. The calculator will be linked to landfill design criteria and operational parameters specific to the landfill's location.

The location calculator for Class III landfills is completed and is scheduled for web-design application in FY2006. Development of the design criteria and operational parameters has started and will be ready for linking to the location calculator in FY2006. Regulation revisions are underway and expected to be complete by the end of FY2007.

B: Result - Citizens are protected from unsafe food and drinking water.

Target #1: No outbreaks of food borne illness in regulated facilities.

Measure #1: Number of regulated facilities with food borne outbreaks within the fiscal year.

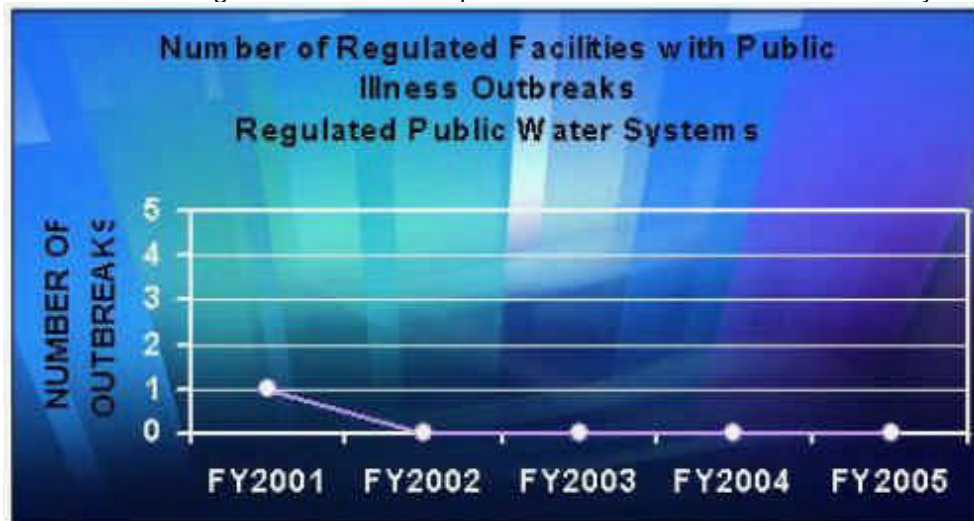


Analysis of results and challenges: The Epidemiology section of Health and Social Services (HSS) conducts investigations of outbreaks of human illness and death and, with the help of DEC investigators, determines the source of the outbreak. Data displayed here reflects the number of food facilities regulated by DEC that were determined to be the source of an outbreak during the reporting period.

While outbreaks reported to HSS can be tracked, many incidents of illness related to food may never actually get reported. In milder cases, symptoms may be mistaken for ordinary flu or an upset stomach and be overlooked by doctors or individuals.

Target #2: No public illness outbreaks from regulated public water systems.

Measure #2: Number of regulated facilities with public illness outbreaks within the fiscal year.



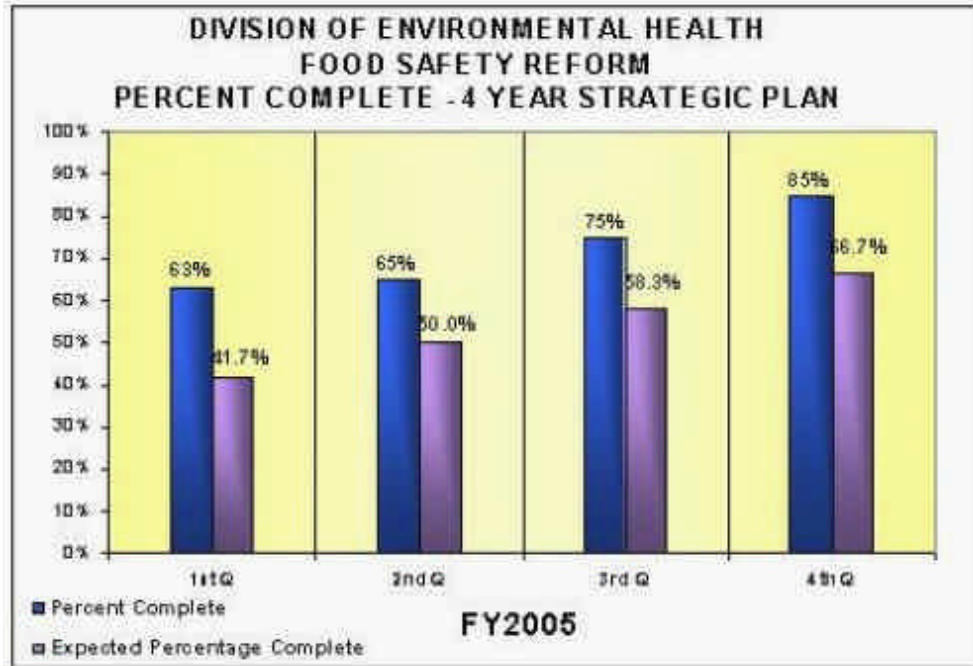
Analysis of results and challenges: The Epidemiology section of Health and Social Services (HSS) conducts investigations of outbreaks of human illness and death and, with the help of DEC investigators, determines the source of the outbreak. Data displayed here reflects the number of drinking water facilities regulated by DEC that were determined to be the source of an outbreak during the reporting period.

While outbreaks reported to HSS can be tracked, many incidents of illness related to drinking water may never actually get reported. In milder cases, symptoms may be mistaken for ordinary flu or an upset stomach and be overlooked by doctors or individuals.

B1: Strategy - Establish protective standards for food and drinking water.

Target #1: Protective standards for food are complete by the end of FY2006.

Measure #1: % of protective standards complete for food.

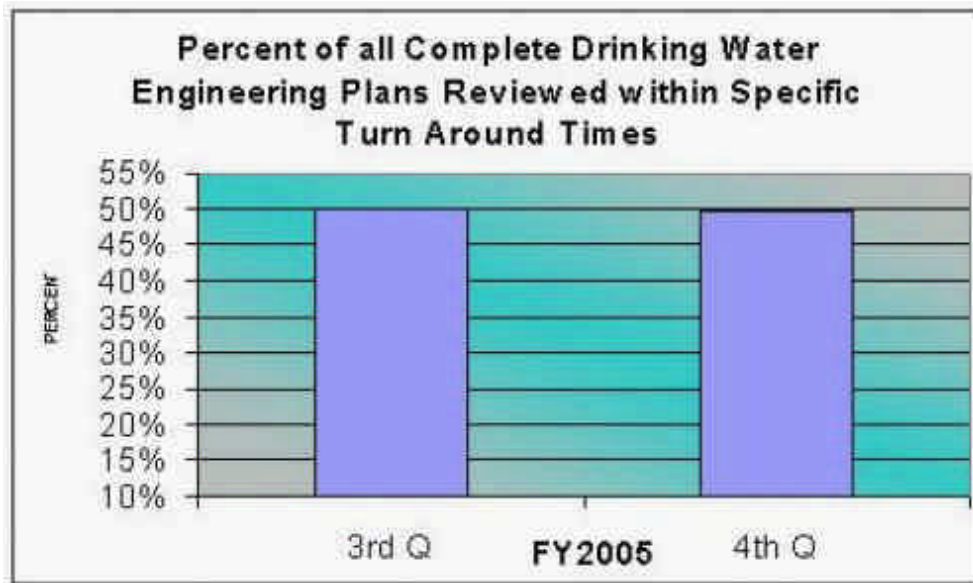


Analysis of results and challenges: The program has actively been working on revisions to the Alaska Food Code (18 AAC 31) to implement HB378, the bill providing authority to require certified food protection managers and food worker cards in Alaska's regulated food establishments. The program released a draft for public comment on January 12, 2005, held numerous public workshops to discuss the package, and received comments from approximately 75 persons by the March 15, 2005 deadline. Extensive reviews of comments and revisions to the draft based on those comments have somewhat delayed completion. We plan to solicit public input on the revised draft and finalize the regulation package by winter 2006.

B2: Strategy - Control sanitary practices for food and drinking water.

Target #1: 100% plan reviews are processed within specific turn around times.

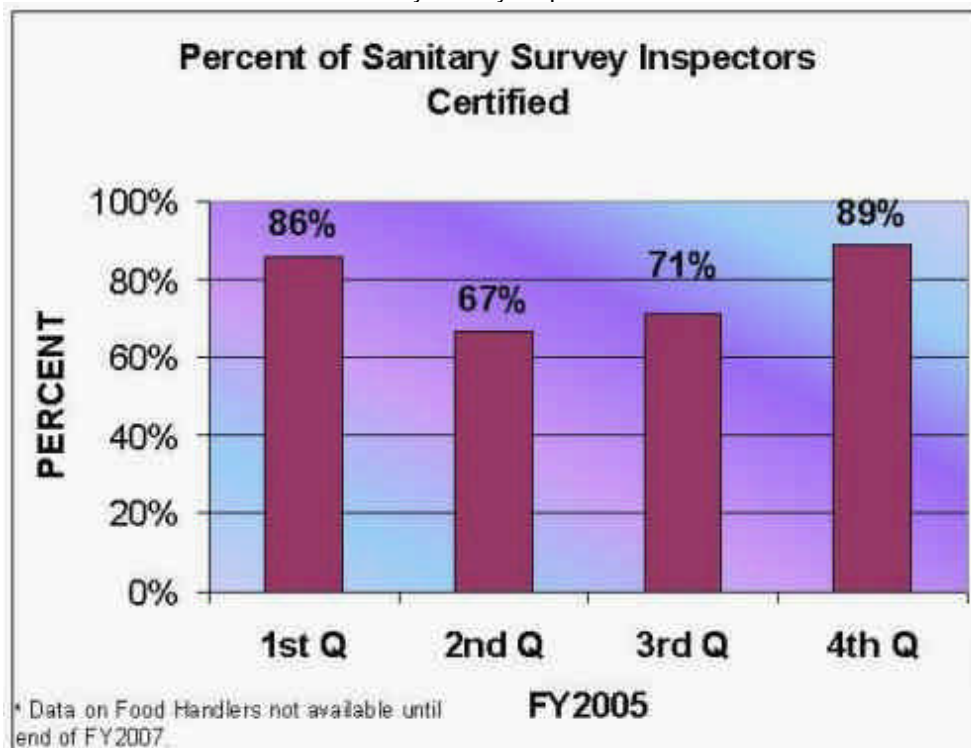
Measure #1: % reviews processed within specific turn around time.



Analysis of results and challenges: Waterborne disease continues to be a threat to public health in many areas. To provide for the protection of public health, the Drinking Water Regulations (18 AAC 80) require that any time a public water system (PWS) is constructed or modified that engineering plans be submitted to the Drinking Water Program for review by department engineering staff. During the engineering review process, the engineer will determine if specifications and materials used in the construction or modification of a PWS meet criteria of the Drinking Water Regulations. These criteria address many items that, taken together, best protect public health and provide safe drinking water. In order to make sure that public water systems are being constructed and operated in a safe manner and are protective of public health, department engineers are required to review complete engineering plan submittals within 30 days of receipt.

Target #2: 100% of food handlers and sanitary survey inspectors are certified.

Measure #2: % of food handlers and sanitary survey inspectors are certified.



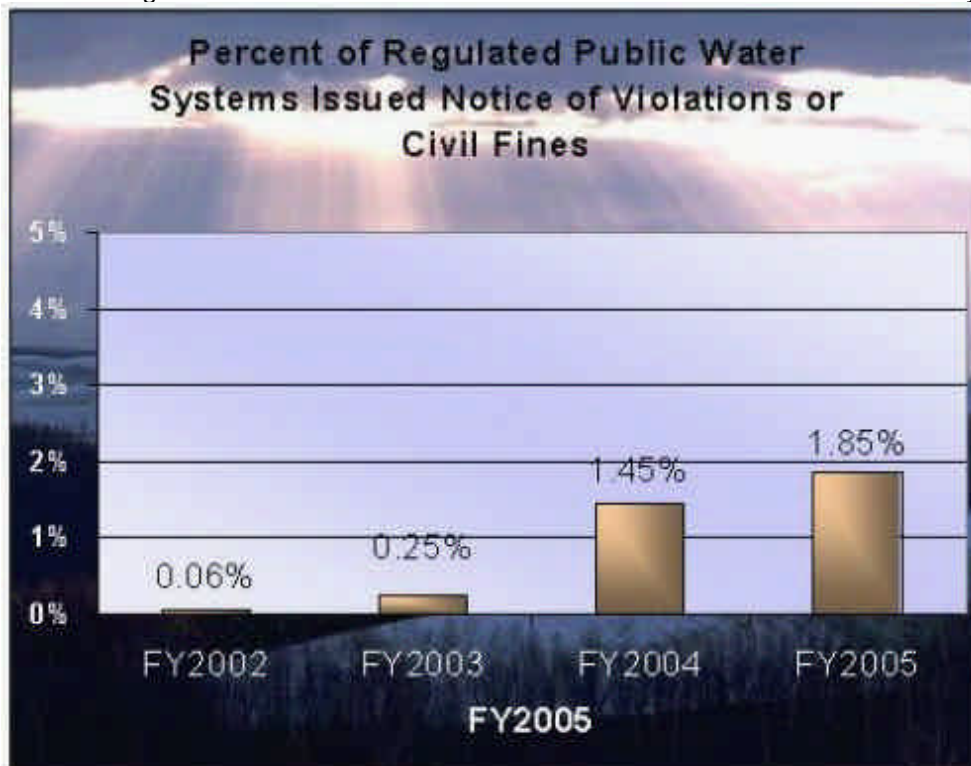
Analysis of results and challenges: This measure combines the certification programs within the Food Safety and Drinking Water Programs. The certification of food handlers is part of the new food safety system and will be implemented in FY2008. Following implementation, data for the food handlers will be included in the measure. Current data only includes certification of sanitary survey inspectors.

All federally regulated public water systems are required to conduct a periodic sanitary survey of their entire water system. A sanitary survey is an onsite review of the water source, treatment facilities and equipment, and operation and maintenance procedures of a public water system. The sanitary survey is used to evaluate the adequacy of the system and helps to determine if it can produce and distribute safe drinking water. Sanitary surveys are required every five years for public water systems using a groundwater source and every three years for public water systems using a surface water source. Most public water systems are very complex, with many individual components that must be inspected during the sanitary survey. The complexity of inspecting the public water system and the protection of public health require that a person conducting a sanitary survey be knowledgeable in all aspects of drinking water treatment and distribution. This requires extensive and specialized training. There are approximately 1,600 federally regulated public water systems in Alaska that must meet the sanitary survey requirement. Not all sanitary surveys can be completed by department staff, so the Drinking Water Program has contracted with the University of Alaska Southeast Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center (ATTAC) to provide training sessions for both department staff and other third party individuals who have prior experience with public water system treatment and distribution. ATTAC currently offers at least three training sessions per year, including two Basic Sanitary Survey classes and one Advanced Sanitary Survey class. The Drinking Water Program also plans to offer one Advanced Sanitary Survey class annually.

B3: Strategy - Enforce safe sanitary practices for food and drinking water.

Target #1: Within a fiscal year, less than 10% of regulated facilities have been issued notice of violations or civil fines.

Measure #1: % of regulated facilities issued notice of violations or civil fines within the fiscal year.



Analysis of results and challenges: This measure combines enforcement actions for regulated food establishments and regulated public water systems for two enforcement tools Notice of Violation (NOV) and

the levy of civil fines and administrative penalties should a regulated entity not comply with standards. The information system to support compliance and enforcement for the new Food Safety Program, Active Managerial Control, is anticipated to be available by FY2006. Current data only includes enforcement actions associated with regulated drinking water systems.

The primary goal of the Drinking Water Program is to make sure that all people who are served by a federally regulated public water system are receiving drinking water that meets health-based standards. Health-based standards are designed to protect people from consuming unsafe drinking water and are enforceable in order for public water systems to be able to serve drinking water to the public. If a public water system does not meet these standards, violations occur and formal enforcement actions are taken against the system. Formal enforcement actions include NOVs and civil fines (administrative penalties). The goal of the Drinking Water Program is to have 100% of public water systems in compliance with health-based standards.

Key RDU Challenges

The Division of Environmental Health deals with the most basic environmental health programs - food, water, and garbage. Adequate laboratory capacity to test food for the presence of biological or chemical contaminants and to certify private laboratories for accurate testing of public water supplies for these same substances is a critical component of the state's environmental health infrastructure. Bringing the new Environmental Health Laboratory fully on line and operational continues to be a priority for this RDU.

A number of Environmental Health programs have been redefined requiring changes to statutes, regulations and staff activities. The Food Safety program is implementing a new, comprehensive food safety system that offers multiple assurances that food sold and served throughout Alaska is safe. The Solid Waste program is shifting from a standard permit type program to a risk-based approach. Having achieved the statutory changes, the implementation of these program changes through regulation revisions is a primary focus for this RDU.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2007

The EPA currently regulates some rules associated with Public Water Systems (PWS). With the addition of funding from an increment requested in the FY2007 budget, the Drinking Water Program will seek to obtain and maintain a full primacy program. Full primacy will allow the program to exercise regulatory control of implementation of all federal rules affecting PWS, providing systems with flexibility for Alaska's specific conditions. Additional staff and resources will assure that the program is able to adopt federal rules within specified timelines, as well as provide guidelines and much needed technical assistance to PWS. PWS will be able to adapt to ongoing changes more readily and experience less difficulty maintaining compliance.

In the FY2006 budget, the legislature approved an Assistant State Veterinarian position but appropriated an amount of federal funds that covers only half of what is needed to support the position. Additional general funds have been requested to fully fund the cost of this position and to provide flexibility for assignment of responsibilities and tasks not allowable under available grants. With these funds, the position will be able to lend support for non-federal activities such as response to a disease outbreak (Avian Flu) or an animal investigation.

Major RDU Accomplishments in 2005

The division successfully implemented a *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (Vp) control program at oyster farms where Vp was identified during the summer of 2004. The outbreak of Vp was unexpected in Alaskan waters, requiring staff to develop and implement the program while maintaining already full workloads. The program was fully incorporated in the division's Food Safety and Sanitation component and only one case of Vp potentially associated with Alaska oysters was reported during the summer of 2005. The Division worked with industry to protect public health and maintain industry production.

The Food Safety and Seafood programs participated in the Selang Ayu oil spill response. They assured that steps were taken by fishers and processors to prevent seafood contamination and ensure that seafood affected by the spill did not make it to market.

Construction of the new Environmental Health Laboratory was completed, with the division taking possession of the

building on September 2, 2005. Transition from the old leased facility in Palmer to the new laboratory is underway.

The Drinking Water Program reduced the number of Alaska PWS on the U.S. EPA Significant Noncompliers List from 183 systems (July 1, 2004) to 88 systems (June 30, 2005). This was a 52% reduction from the prior year and was a significant public health protection and compliance achievement. The reduction was a direct result of compliance and technical assistance and, issuing 1,276 enforcement actions.

The Solid Waste Program completed development of a Landfill Location Criteria Calculator, to provide smaller communities the tools for risk-based self-evaluation.

The Pesticide Program sought and received authority to collect fees from pesticide manufacturers, replacing general funds needed to maintain State primacy with other receipts. Regulations are being drafted to implement this change.

Contact Information

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Environmental Health RDU Financial Summary by Component

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2005 Actuals				FY2006 Management Plan				FY2007 Governor			
	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds
<u>Formula Expenditures</u>												
None.												
<u>Non-Formula Expenditures</u>												
Environmental Health Director	305.3	0.0	0.0	305.3	288.7	0.0	0.0	288.7	305.4	0.0	0.0	305.4
Food Safety & Sanitation	1,104.2	304.6	1,500.9	2,909.7	1,360.5	383.4	1,730.3	3,474.2	1,420.4	396.8	1,820.2	3,637.4
Laboratory Services	1,214.1	580.5	276.9	2,071.5	1,307.2	1,084.2	277.5	2,668.9	1,420.2	1,105.4	287.5	2,813.1
Drinking Water	851.4	2,062.9	2.5	2,916.8	819.8	2,989.4	0.0	3,809.2	1,845.7	3,836.6	0.0	5,682.3
Solid Waste Management	1,239.5	207.8	0.0	1,447.3	1,167.2	307.9	318.0	1,793.1	1,206.0	320.5	328.7	1,855.2
Totals	4,714.5	3,155.8	1,780.3	9,650.6	4,943.4	4,764.9	2,325.8	12,034.1	6,197.7	5,659.3	2,436.4	14,293.4

Environmental Health
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2006 Management Plan to FY2007 Governor

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2006 Management Plan	4,943.4	4,764.9	2,325.8	12,034.1
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Environmental Health Director	16.1	0.0	0.0	16.1
-Food Safety & Sanitation	57.6	12.9	86.4	156.9
-Laboratory Services	62.1	20.4	9.6	92.1
-Drinking Water	171.6	0.0	0.0	171.6
-Solid Waste Management	36.6	12.1	10.3	59.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-Environmental Health Director	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
-Food Safety & Sanitation	2.3	0.5	3.5	6.3
-Laboratory Services	50.9	0.8	0.4	52.1
-Drinking Water	854.3	847.2	0.0	1,701.5
-Solid Waste Management	2.2	0.5	0.4	3.1
FY2007 Governor	6,197.7	5,659.3	2,436.4	14,293.4